

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 14-17 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original subject matter in a continuing application. Please amend claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 18 as follows.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A reclosable zipper for positioning between two layers of web material comprising:

a first profile member having a base, an interlocking closure element extending from the base and at least one flange extending from the base, the flange having an inner surface and an outer surface;

a second profile member having a base, an interlocking closure element extending from the base and at least one flange extending from the base, the flange having an inner surface and an outer surface;

a first sealant layer formed on the outer surface of at least one flange of the first profile member and a second sealant layer formed on the outer surface of at least one flange of the second profile member, the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer protruding from the ~~flange~~ flanges wherein the first sealant layer and second sealant layer have a generally teardrop shape to define an open air gap between the first profile member and a first layer of web material and the second profile member and a second layer of web material;

and a standoff area formed on the inner ~~surface~~ surfaces of the ~~flange~~ flanges having the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The reclosable zipper of claim 1 wherein the standoff area formed on the inner surfaces of the flanges is generally aligned with the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer.

3. **(Previously Presented)** The reclosable zipper of claim 1 wherein the first profile member and the second profile member are formed from a first material and the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer is formed from a second material.

4. (Original) The reclosable zipper of claim 3 wherein the second material is a heat activated adhesive.
5. (Original) The reclosable zipper of claim 3 wherein the standoff area is formed from the first material.
6. (Previously Presented) The reclosable zipper of claim 1 wherein the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer are extruded with the first and second profile members.
7. (Canceled)
8. **(Currently Amended)** The reclosable zipper of claim 1 wherein each flange of the first and second profile members includes an edge spaced from the interlocking closure element, the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer being formed on the edge of the respective flange.
9. **(Currently Amended)** The reclosable zipper of claim 1 wherein each of the first and second profile members includes a pair of flanges, the first sealant layer being formed on the pair of flanges of the first profile member and the second sealant layer is being formed on the pair of flanges of both first profile member and the second profile member.
10. (Original) The reclosable zipper of claim 1, wherein the first profile member includes a pair of flanges and the second profile member includes a pair of flanges.
11. (Original) The reclosable zipper of claim 10 further comprising a pair of standoff areas formed on the inner surface of each flange of both the first profile member and the second profile member.

12. (Previously Presented) The reclosable zipper of claim 11 wherein each of the standoff areas is generally aligned with the first sealant layer and second sealant layer.

13. (Original) The reclosable zipper of claim 10 wherein the pair of flanges on the first profile member extend in opposite directions from the base of the first profile member and the pair of flanges of the second profile member extend in opposite directions from the base of the second profile member.

Claims 14-17 (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A reclosable zipper for positioning between two layers of web material comprising:

- a first profile member having a base, an interlocking closure element extending from the base and a pair of flanges each extending from the base, each flange having an inner surface, an outer surface and an edge spaced from the interlocking closure element;

- a second profile member having a base, an interlocking closure element extending from the base and a pair of flanges each extending from the base, each flange having an inner surface, an outer surface and an edge spaced from the interlocking closure element;

- a first sealant layer formed on the outer surface of at least one flange of the first profile member and a second sealant layer formed on the outer surface of at least one flange of the second profile member, the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer protruding from the outer ~~surface~~ surfaces of the ~~flange~~ flanges wherein the first sealant layer and second layer have a generally teardrop shape to define an open air gap between the first profile member and a first layer of web material and the second profile member and a second layer of web material.

19. (Previously Presented) The reclosable zipper of claim 18 wherein the first profile member and the second profile member are formed from a first material and the first sealant layer and the second sealant layer are formed from a second material.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The reclosable zipper of claim 18 wherein each flange of the first profile member includes a sealant layer and each flange of the second profile member includes a sealant layer.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The reclosable zipper of claim 1 wherein the first profile member and second profile member are formed with low density polyethylene and the first sealant layer and second sealant layer are formed with a material with a lower melting point than the low density polyethylene.

25. (Previously Presented) The reclosable zipper of claim 18 wherein the first profile member and second profile member are formed with low density polyethylene and the first sealant layer and second sealant layer are formed with a material with a lower melting point than the low density polyethylene.